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Non-Profits Bankroll Israeli Nukes

501(c)3 tax-exempt front companies funnel funds for expansion of arsenal

By Michael Collins Piper

American supporters of Israel can be justly proud. As a consequence of their substantial political clout, through the aegis of their lobby groups that have such a tremendous impact on the conduct of U.S. foreign policy, massive U.S. foreign aid giveaways to Israel made possible by members of Congress who are overwhelmingly loyal to the interests of Israel have made that tiny—yet powerful—Middle East state a genuine world powerhouse, all a direct result of massive multi-billions of dollars in transfusions of U.S. treasury giveaways.

All of this not to mention the fact that U.S. military aid to Israel—supplemented with direct grants of U.S. military technology (and direct theft of U.S. technology by Israeli spies operating on American soil)—has made little Israel by far the most powerful single state in the entire Middle East.

In fact, American taxpayers are both directly and indirectly subsidizing Israel's nuclear weapons powerhouse, said to be perhaps the fifth largest in the entire world.

Just a few facts about Israel's status were leaked to the American public in an unusual advertisement that appeared in a recent edition of *The New York Times*.

Sponsored by the American Technion Society (ATS) which is a support group for the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Israel (described as "among the world's leading science and technology universities), the advertisement brags, in a headline, that "Israel's Only Natural Resource [is] the Brainpower of its People."

The advertisement, which is a pitch for financial contributions to help the ATS help Israel, through the work of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, reads as follows:

> Without oil, without enough water and with landmass the size of New Jersey, Israel is focused on developing its only natural resource: the brainpower of its people.
>
> Israel has become a world leader in science, technology and medicine. It has more technology-based start-up companies per capita than any other country; more companies on Nasdaq than any country except the United States and Canada; and a standard of living that places it firmly among First World Nations.

The high-sounding rhetoric of this advertisement belies the truth. People who know of the massive U.S. financial support for Israel—particularly in the wake of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and the assumption to power of his successor, Lyndon Johnson, who was primarily responsible for energizing U.S. foreign aid to Israel—cannot help but note that the ATS advertisement fails to mention that it has been U.S. taxpayer support that has helped Israel blossom.

Any other nation that received the kind of unqualified U.S. financial backing that Israel has enjoyed could almost certainly brag of the same accomplishments attributed to "the brainpower of its people."

The ATS's foreign principal in Israel, by the way, also happens to be a major fount of financial resources directed toward Israel's program for assembling and maintaining Israel's officially non-existent, but nonetheless substantial, arsenal of nuclear weapons of mass destruction, the singular source of conflict in the Middle East today, often cited as the very reason why other Middle East nations—from Iraq to Syria and on to Iran and Saudi Arabia—have evinced interest in building their own nuclear weapons arsenals.

What makes the ATS fundraising for Israel so notable is that ATS—which is helping a foreign university which is an agency of a foreign nation—is that ATS is, by its own admission, a not-for-profit organization with 501(c)3 status granted by the Internal Revenue Service. Thus, this means that contributions to the ATS are eligible as charitable deductions to a public charity. And American supporters of Israel—who include many top-level billionaires and millionaires— can reduce their annual contribution to the IRS by making giant contributions to help their favorite foreign nation and its nuclear arsenal.

So while Americans suffer at home, with middle class families unable to send their kids through college, senior citizens unable to buy medicine and many people unable to afford basic health care, as roads and bridges crumble, and young Americans are dying in Iraq (and possibly soon even in Iran) to protect Israel—and while disease and starvation and homelessness remain sore spots on the American scene—struggling Americans who have trouble paying their own taxes are actually directly paying the bills for Israel's domestic and military advances and doing so indirectly as well, as super-rich supporters of Israel get tax breaks through their donations to an American tax exempt organization that subsidizes life in Israel to the point that Israel (in reality, a welfare recipient) is thriving. That, American taxpayers are told, is what American democracy is all about. "We have to pay our taxes to keep the world safe." And that includes subsidizing Israel..

A journalist specializing in media critique, Michael Collins Piper is the author of ***Final Judgment***, the controversial "underground bestseller" documenting the collaboration of Israeli intelligence in the assassination of John F. Kennedy. He is also the author of ***The High Priests of War***, ***The New Jerusalem***, ***The Judas Goats***, and ***Dirty Secrets***, all available from America First Books and First Amendment Books. He has lectured on these topics in places as diverse as Malaysia, Japan, Canada, Moscow and Abu Dhabi.

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